

PINK BOLLWORM PROGRAM – WEEKLY REPORT
36 YEARS OF SERVICE TO COTTON GROWERS



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Week Ending September 20, 2003

Pink Bollworm Activities

Palo Verde and Imperial Valleys:

Native pink bollworm moth captures continued to increase in all traps in the Imperial Valley and in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area. A total of 25,376 moths were caught this week, up 18.6% over last week. Agricultural Pest Control Specialist, Jodi Brigman, made boll collections in several fields in the Imperial Valley for the *Bt* resistance study. The development of fields in the Blythe/Palo Verde Valley area is several weeks behind those in Imperial Valley and boll collections there will begin when appropriate.

San Joaquin Valley:

Thirty-one (31) native pink bollworm moths were trapped this week. Twenty-two (22) were found in Kern County, one (1) was trapped in Kings County, two (2) in Merced County, and six (6) in Tulare County. This brings the season total to 72. This is six more than trapped by the same time last year.

Sterile moth releases were up again this week with 15.5 million moths released. This increase is due to the lab sending moths not needed as egg-layers as the rearing facility is cutting back production. The sterile moth releases are scheduled to end with the last release on October 4th. The season total is now 252.5 million sterile moths released. The Visalia Identification Lab inspected 862 traps (+18.4%) containing 13,299 sterile moths (+19.3%) and 31 native moths.

PBW Program staff participated in USDA and University of California Cooperative Extension sponsored cotton field days at the Shafter Cotton Research Station and the West Side Research Extension Center on September 16th and 18th. Staff gave presentations and answered questions concerning this year's reduced tillage permit program and PBW Program plowdown regulations.

Sacramento Valley:

There was no activity to report in Sacramento Valley this week. The 87 pheromone-baited traps that were installed in all cotton fields in Colusa, Glenn, Sutter, and Yolo counties during the prior week will remain in place.